

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----281311 071248 /53

R 281026Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9659

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T BANGKOK 4485

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EAID ASEAN JA TH US

SUBJECT: MEETING ON ASEAN OF JAPANESE AMBASSADORS

1. I HAVE BEEN CONFIDENTIALLY INFORMED BY AMBASSADOR HITOMI OF JAPAN THAT HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES IN ASEAN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN SUMMONED TO TOKYO THE WEEK OF MARCH 7 FOR INTENSIVE BRIEFINGS OF PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA PRIOR TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. ACCORDING TO HITOMI, THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO PLACE GREAT EMPHASIS ON THE QUESTION OF JAPANESE AND US RELATIONS WITH ASEAN IN THE COURSE OF THESE TALKS.

2. HITOMI WENT ON TO SAY THAT JAPAN CONSIDERED SOUTHEAST ASIA TO BE AN AREA OF GREAT IMPORTANCE, AND THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HOPED THIS VIEW WOULD BE SHARED BY THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION. FOR EXAMPLE, JAPAN INTENDED TO PROVIDE THAILAND NEXT YEAR WITH SOFT LOANS (THREE PERCENT INTEREST)

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ON THE ORDER OF 70 TO 80 MILLION DOLLARS. HE SAID THAT JAPAN HOPED THAT THE US WOULD REMAIN ECONOMICALLY INVOLVED IN THE AREA WITH BOTH THE US GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE COMPANIES HELPING THE ASEAN COUNTRIES WITH THEIR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

3. I THANKED HITOMI FOR THIS INFORMATION AND

COMMENTED THAT FOR THE TIME BEING OUR DWINDLING
AID PROGRAM WAS CONCENTRATED ON POPULATION
PROBLEMS AND NARCOTICS. AMERICAN COMPANIES
SEEMED INTERESTED IN THAILAND BUT POLITICAL
UNCERTAINTIES HAD CERTAINLY AFFECTED THE INVESTMENT
CLIMATE.
WHITEHOUSE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADORS MEETINGS, DEBRIEFINGS, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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